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NASA-1720

Chief of Station, Frankfurt

3 June 1962

Chief of Station, Vienna

Operational

Dr. Kumerich PFCZAREK

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3 June 52
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A U S T R I A

26 May 1952 (R/23737)

SUBJECT: Dr. Americh OFFICZAREK

**Time :
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1. Dr. Americh OFFICZAREK was a member of the illegal Austrian SD and, prior to 1938, active with Vienna illegal SD. During the war he was transferred to Abwehr; first he held a second-rank position at Bratislava, later he became active with the Russian auxiliary volunteer troops where he was in charge of III F affairs.

2. Probably in spring 1947 OFFICZAREK joined the G organization. His employment was not so much based on his experience, since his former activity had only covered a small section of intelligence work, but was mainly due to his personal acquaintanceship with Dr. Kurt EOLICH, member of the G-organization's operational staff.

Since, at least at such time, illegal SD activity in Austria was considered by the G-organization a disrepute rather than a recommendation, OFFICZAREK managed to have a friend certify that he had been engaged in the preparations to the 20-July attempt on Hitler. Actually he was not involved in such conspiracy.

3. Dr. OFFICZAREK then became chief of an intelligence group operating in Austria with the following chores:

- a- Austrian economy
- b- KPOs
- c- Red Army in Austria
- d- Yugoslavia

OFFICZAREK established his headquarters first at St. Florian near Linz, later at Salzburg.

4. At first the OFFICZAREK group was immediately subordinated to the Munich center of the G-organization and was coordinated to the WALLER-THUNAL group. Seen a keen competition

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developed between OFFICZAK and MILLER; at which they frequently accused each other of furnishing forged reports and employing unreliable collaborators. MILLER finally succeeded in bribing an agent active with OFFICZAK's Salzburg office to regularly inform him on OFFICZAK's steps. Although this fact became known to OFFICZAK, he, for opportunism, remained on friendly terms with MILLER. MILLER got OFFICZAK completely under his influence and, to a small extent, let him participate in his obscure business transactions as to keep him under moral pressure.

5. Late in 1947 OFFICZAK appointed his brother-in-law Martin SCHMIDT his organization manager. Though SCHMIDT, originally from Silesia and a printer by profession, had no experience in intelligence affairs, he soon managed to bring OFFICZAK's office completely under his control. OFFICZAK himself became his subject and SCHMIDT was to be considered the actual chief of the group. SCHMIDT, a brutal and mischievous misanthrope, is very attached to his family living in North Germany and caused OFFICZAK to support his family with considerable sums.

6. In August 1949 the OFFICZAK group became affiliated to the MILLER group; MILLER became OFFICZAK's superior. OFFICZAK's personnel and budget were curtailed.

7. Under SCHMIDT's influence the OFFICZAK group now mainly specialized on counter intelligence and MOEs. SCHMIDT organized the shadowing of single persons, even members of his own group, by using special agents.

The G-Organization staff considered OFFICZAK's work useful but stated that it never showed extraordinary results.

8. In July 1951 the MILLER and OFFICZAK groups were dissolved. Through Dr. MILLER (see para. 2) OFFICZAK managed nevertheless to become re-activated with the G-Organization. According to his own statements made to a number of collaborators, his new activity only covers III F affairs. The following facts however seem to indicate that he was given a number of additional chores:

- a- He still employs one evaluator for Austrian internal affairs and economy.
- b- He employs and frequently visits collaborators in Carinthia who probably furnish him information on Yugoslavia.

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- c- Until the end of 1951 he received information on RICO, SICO and industries in Styria (another Styrian intelligence line had been cut off previously).
- d- The Vienna and Linz special agents for the supervision of single persons had not been dismissed.
- e- OFFICER ZAREK reportedly stated his intention to resume in fall 1952 his activity on 1 affairs.

9. Unknown for what reasons OFFICER ZAREK and SCHMIDT maintain connections with former collaborators they had been warned as being dubious. These are:

- a- Dr. Kurt SCHMIDT, who in 1948 was employed with the OFFICER ZAREK group as an expert for economy, domestic policy and personnel affairs. SCHMIDT, upon Soviet pressure, probably works for Soviet intelligence; Soviet agents Dr. Friedrich SCHALLER, of Lustenau, and Dr. Otto SCHALLER approached -- SCHMIDT possibly already in 1948 re retesting from his collaboration with Soviet intelligence; as a compensation they offered friendly treatment of his Hungarian-born wife living in Hungary (until late in 1949) and her relatives. SCHMIDT informed OFFICER ZAREK accordingly and stated that he had rejected such offer. In 1949 his wife moved to Austria without difficulties and still in 1951 had several telephone talks with relatives in Hungary; allegedly she also visited Budapest once or twice in 1950/51. Upon advice by the G-Organization OFFICER ZAREK dismissed SCHMIDT, probably early in 1951. Despite such fact SCHMIDT is still being employed by OFFICER ZAREK as economic and possibly political expert.
- b- Prof. Dr. Kurt SCHALLER, former Rector of Vienna Hochschule fuer Welthandel, who in 1948 was employed by OFFICER ZAREK for evaluating reports on Austrian economy and domestic policy. In 1950 OFFICER ZAREK gave him an apartment in his house on Bondsee. Dr. Kurt SCHALLER Jr., son of the above, who is employed with a VEST-affiliated trade enterprise where he is also active as Communist Party informant member, is used by OFFICER ZAREK for collecting and checking information on RICO, Prof. SCHALLER Sr. acting as intermediary between his son and OFFICER ZAREK. Dr. SCHALLER Jr. uses to qualify the reports he has to check as exaggerated or forged. Probably he passes respective reports on to his Communist superiors. Then returning from a trip to Vienna early in 1951, Prof. Kurt SCHALLER Sr. was arrested by the Soviets at the zone border near Innsbruck, but was released after a several-hour investigation and brought to Innsbruck by automobile.

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- c- Rudolf LUKSCH, director with Lins 71207; when in 1949 OFFICZAK was informed by reliable source that LUKSCH was a secret communist researcher, OFFICZAK did neither check such information nor pass it on to Munich as far as is known. OFFICZAK holds personal contact with LUKSCH.
- d- Franz KAH, with whom OFFICZAK, according to the latter's own statement, is personally acquainted since 1946. KAH, editor with the Upper Austrian Communist daily "Der Zeit" and a close collaborator of Upper Austrian NSDAP Landesleiter Franz HALLER, is considered an ardent Communist. OFFICZAK however claims to know that at least KAH opposes Communism. KAH according to a remark by OFFICZAK, was not suitable for intelligence work. OFFICZAK remarked in 1947 that he could become a Communist party member under a cover name at any time; this was possibly based on his contact with KAH.

10. When SCHEFF established a card file on all members of the OFFICZAK group, OFFICZAK gave his collaborators his word of honor not to pass on the informants' names to other persons but to keep them strictly secret for his own use only. Disregarding such promise Martin SCHINDT disclosed to his special agents (see para. 7) the clearances for certain their personal data on biographies. A report on KAH and LUKSCH worked out by one of OFFICZAK's collaborators and handed over to OFFICZAK under the condition that it be kept strictly secret, was passed on to KAH who from the wording found out the identity of its author.